

Message Text

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21

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TO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

INFO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

DEPT OF TREASURY

USSAGE NAKHON PHANOM

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COGARD

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SUBJECT: NOVEMBER 27 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. CHINA - SECRETARY'S VISIT

WP, SUN AND PHINQ USE AP STORIES ON HAK'S FRIENDLY

FIRST SESSION (AFTER TOURING FORBIDDEN CITY) TUESDAY

WITH TENG ET AL, AT WHICH THEY EXCHANGED EXPRESSIONS

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OF HOPE THEY COULD HAVE SIMILAR SESSIONS ONE DAY

SOON IN WASHINGTON. AP ADDS IT WAS UNCLEAR WHETHER

TENG WAS SAYING PRC HAD DROPPED OBJECTION TO SENDING

TOP LEADER BEFORE US BREAKS RELATIONS WITH TAIPEI

OR JUST INDICATING INTEREST IN SEEING SUCH A BREAK OCCUR SOON. UPI VERSION (PHINQ, TRIB, NYDN AND 11/26 S-N) PERCEIVED A HINT BY TENG THAT HAK MAY SOON INVITE TOP LEADER FOR FIRST TIME, AND THAT, ACCORDING TO DIPLOMATIC SOURCES, "CHINESE MAY BE WILLING TO STEP UP THE PACE OF THE POLICY OF GOOD FEELING." AP VERSION STRESSED THAT HAK (FLANKED BY RUMSFELD AND BUSH) WAS BRIEFING CHINESE ON VLADIVOSTOK AGREEMENT, "A MEANS OF REASSURING CHINA" THAT PRES REACHED NO SECRET AGREEMENTS.

NYT'S LELYVELD NOTED THAT IN RESPONSE TO TENG'S HOPE FOR FUTURE MEETING IN WASHINGTON, HAK COUNTERED, "BUT YOUR SIDE HAS REFUSED SEVERAL INVITATIONS".

PRC OFFICIAL LATER EXPLAINED THAT TENG'S REMARK REPRESENTED NO CHANGE IN PEKING'S POSITION, ONLY A HOPE THAT THE SITUATION WOULD CHANGE. LELYVELD ALSO REPORTS THAT ON TUES AFTERNOON HABIB BEGAN SEPARATE NEGOTIATIONS ON UNIDENTIFIED BILATERAL ISSUES, AND THERE HAVE BEEN INDICATIONS THAT ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO BREAK DEADLOCK ON ISSUE OF ASSETS AND CLAIMS.

GLOBE, PHINQ, SUN AND WP CARRY AP NOTE THAT SECRETARY STILL UNCERTAIN WHETHER HE WILL SEE MAO. WP ADDS THAT PEOPLE'S DAILY PLAYED UP VISIT TUESDAY WITH FRONT PAGE STORY AND PHOTO OF HAK'S VISIT WITH CHOU.

PAPERS CARRY PHOTOS OF SECRETARY DINING WITH TENG, HAK AND WIFE CHATting WITH CHIAO, WIFE COMMUNING WITH COWS, AND DAVID'S CHUG-A-LUG WITH CHIAO.

2. CHINA

SEVERAL PAPERS FEATURE MOSCOW CORRESPONDENTS' REPORTS ON BREZHNEV REJECTION IN ULAN BATOR OF PRC "PROPOSAL" UNCLASSIFIED

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FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FRONTIER TROOPS AS FIRST STEP TOWARDS IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS. JACKSON (TRIB) REPORTED WESTERN ANALYSTS IN MOSCOW SAYING BREZHNEV'S REMARKS WERE FIRM INDICATION THAT KREMLIM HAD RULED OUT MAJOR COMPROMISES WITH PRESENT PRC LEADERSHIP. PARKS (SUN) SAID BREZHNEV WAS NOTABLY MODERATE, REFRAINING FROM MOST OF THE USUAL DENUNCIATIONS. THIS SUGGESTED TO PARKS' WESTERN OBSERVERS THAT MOSCOW WELCOMED THE INITIATIVE AS A BIT OF MOVEMENT AND WANTED TO ENCOURAGE OTHER EFFORTS. PARKS SAW IN THIS REACTION FIRST SIGN OF CONCILIATORY MOVEMENT IN OVER A YEAR.

OSNOS (WP) NOTED THAT WHILE BREZHNEV HIMSELF DID NOT USE STRONG LANGUAGE, TSEDENBAL SPARED FEW ADJECTIVES IN HIS DENUNCIATION. OSNOS ADDS THAT THE CERTAINTY WITH WHICH BREZHNEV SPOKE ON CONCLUDING SALT AGREEMENT AND ON IMPROVING US-USSR RELATIONS SURPRISED SOME MOSCOW OBSERVERS, SINCE IT COMMITS SOVIETS TO SUCCESS OF STILL COMPLICATED NEGOTIATIONS.

NYT'S CHRIS WREN REPORTED ON SPEECH FROM ULAN BATOR, BUT HAD NO LOCAL SOURCES TO EMBROIDER IT FOR HIM.

PHINQ REPORTS CLARE LUCE AND BILL BUCKLEY HAVE ORGANIZED "FRIENDS OF FREE CHINA CLUB", TO PRESERVE CHINESE CULTURE AND TRADITION.

3. INDOCHINA

TELTSCHE (NYT) AT UN DESCRIBES DRIVE TO REPLACE GKR BY GRUNK IN UNGA. ASIAN NEIGHBORS OF CAMBODIA, WITH US SUPPORT, COUNTER EXPULSION CAMPAIGN AND INSIST THAT UN HAS NO AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE GOVT ON CAMBODIAN PEOPLE. ALGERIA AND CHINA BACK SIHANOUK, ARGUE THAT GKR WAS IMPOSED BY US-INSTIGATED COUP; 34 OTHER COUNTRIES SUPPORT OUSTER MOVE. CLOSE VOTE EXPECTED, BUT SOME WESTERN DIPLOMATS BELIEVE GKR SEAT WILL BE SAVED FOR ANOTHER YEAR. TELTSCHE SEES OUTCOME AS DEPENDENT ON WHETHER THAILAND, JAPAN AND OTHER ASIAN MEMBERS CAN GET PRIORITY FOR THEIR RESOLUTION THAT IS JOINTLY UNCLASSIFIED

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SPONSORED BY 23 COUNTRIES AND CALLS FOR SETTLEMENT BY PARTIES CONCERNED WITHOUT OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE. THAI DELEGATE WARNED GA THAT IT WOULD SET DANGEROUS PRECEDENT BY RECOGNIZING GOVT-IN-EXILE. GKR FM KEUKY LIM TOLD ASSEMBLY THAT SEATING SIHANOUK WOULD LEAD TO LONGER, MORE CRUEL WAR, RENEWED OFFER TO LET UN SEND INSPECTION TEAM TO CAMBODIA AND CHALLENGED INSURGENTS TO MAKE SIMILAR OFFER. PRC DELEGATE HUANG HUA CHARGED GKR WAS IMPOSED BY US-INSTIGATED COUP TO PERMIT US TROOPS TO USE CAMBODIAN TERRITORY TO WAGE INDOCHINA WAR. HE DENOUNCED LON NOL AND SUPPORTERS AS "SCUM," PREDICTED GKR WAS "HEADING FOR DOOM."

WP'S BECKER AT UN SAYS SIHANOUK SUPPORTERS HOPE TO HOLD TOGETHER AFRO-ASIAN BLOC THAT APPROVED RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING PALESTINIAN SOVEREIGNTY AND SUSPENDED SOUTH AFRICA. NOTES CAUTIOUS PREDICTIONS OF VICTORY BY BOTH CAMBODIAN SIDES, WITH VOTE EXPECTED THURSDAY.

NYT'S GELB REPORTS THAT SFRC APPROVED NEW 2.65 BILLION DOL FOREIGN AID BILL TO REPLACE ONE THAT SENATE SENT BACK FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. BILL STILL CONTAINS

PROVISIONS OPPOSED BY ADMIN, INCLUDING RESTRICTIONS ON AID TO INDOCHINA. WP'S RICH NOTES CURBS ON OUTLAYS FOR INDOCHINA AND KOREA, INCLUDING LIMITATION ON US DIRECT HIRE AND CONTRACT PERSONNEL IN SVN OF 4000 FOR THIS YEAR, 3000 AFTER NEXT JUNE 30; AND LIMIT OF 175 ON SIMILAR PERSONNEL IN CAMBODIA. CEILING ON AID TO GKR WOULD BE 377 MILLION; LAOS LIMIT WOULD BE 70 MILLION; TOTAL FOR INDOCHINA RECONSTRUCTION WOULD BE 617 MILLION. COMMITTEE ALSO CUT MIL AID TO SK TO 133.9 MILLION AND PUT CEILING OF 1.267 BILLION ON ALL FORMS OF AID TO SVN, INCLUDING MIL AID FUNDED IN ANOTHER BILL.

GVN ON SECURITY GROUNDS REFUSES RC LEADERS PERMISSION FOR PLANNED DEMONSTRATION AGAINST TRIAL OF THREE NEWSPAPERS CHARGED WITH LIBELING THIEU. REV THANH SAYS DEMONSTRATION WILL BE HELD ANYWAY, WITH 10-20,000 EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE (TRIB). COMBAT POLICE CONSPICUOUSLY DEPLOYED IN SAIGON AFTER GVN DENIED UNCLASSIFIED

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PERMISSION FOR MARCH. COMMUNIQUE WARNS PEOPLE AGAINST CONGREGATING AT MUNICIPAL COURT WHERE TRIAL WILL BE HELD. ORGANIZERS SAY THEY WILL GO AHEAD WITH "PEACEFUL RALLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS," APPARENTLY INCLUDING SIT-INS (NYT).

WP'S MCCOMBS IN SAIGON DESCRIBES MOUNTING TENSION FOLLOWING GVN REFUSAL OF PERMIT. SEVERAL POLITICAL OBSERVERS ARE SKEPTICAL OF CATHOLIC CLAIM THEY EXPECT MORE THAN 10,000 TO MARCH ANYHOW. ANTI-THANH BANNERS HAVE APPEARED IN MANY PARTS OF CITY; OPPOSITION LEADERS SAY GVN PUT THEM UP. POLITICAL OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT MASS OF POPULATION, WHILE CRITICAL OF THIEU, DOES NOT YET APPEAR TO BE STRONGLY BEHIND PROTEST MOVEMENTS.

LONDON OBSERVER'S DALBY (PHINQ) FROM DANANG DESCRIBES GVN'S APPARENTLY SUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO CLEAN UP CITY. DESCRIBES WARTIME DETERIORATION OF DANANG FROM SLEEPY PORT TO SWOLLEN, SLEAZY METROPOLIS RINGED BY FILTHY REFUGEE CAMPS. TELLS OF GVN EFFORT TO RESETTLE REFUGEES, AND FORMATION, WITH USAID, OF AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF DANANG AREA TO PUT CITY IN SHAPE BY BUILDING DRAINAGE DITCHES, LAYING PAVEMENT, WHITWASHING WALLS, PLANTING TREES, SWEEPING STREETS AND PLACING BENCHES. DALBY SEES MOST USEFUL FUNCTION OF ADDA AS PROVIDING JOBS, IN FACE OF HEAVY UNEMPLOYMENT IN NORTHERN TOWNS.

4. KOREA

UN COMMAND SAYS INDICATIONS EXIST THAT NK IS CONSTRUCTING

MORE INFILTRATION TUNNELS UNDER DMZ (TRIB), DEMANDS
THAT NK DESTROY ALL ILLEGAL TUNNELS (PHINQ).

5. PHILS

INFORMED FIL SOURCES SAY GOP SECDEF APPROVES LETTING
RED CROSS DOCTORS EXAMINE TWO MARTIAL LAW DETAINEES
WHO ARE IN NINTH MONTH OF FAST. FORMER PUBLISHER
EUGENIO LOPEZ, JR., AND GRANDSON OF FORMER PRESIDENT
OSMENA HAVE VOWED TO CONTINUE FAST TO PROTEST DETENTION
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WITHOUT TRIAL FOR OVER TWO YEARS (AP, WP).

PHIL NEWS AGENCY REPORTS THAT MOTOR LAUNCH CARRYING
MOSLEM REFUGEES EXPLODED AND SANK IN SOUTHERN WATERS,
19 DROWNED AND FIVE MISSING (AP CHITRIB, BALTO
N-A 11/26).

6. JAPAN

MOST PAPERS CONTINUE HEAVY REPORTING ON TANAKA'S
DOWNFALL, "JAPAN'S WATERGATE," WITHOUT ADDING NEW
KNOWLEDGE, EITHER ON HIS RESIGNATION OR JOCKEYING
FOR SUCCESSION.

WP SPECIAL FROM TOKYO BY ED SCHUMACHER SAYS BOTH
HAK AND SAUVAGNARGUES WENT COURTING THERE LAST
WEEK, BUT NEITHER WON FULL ENDORSEMENT FROM GOJ, WHICH
CLINGS TO POSITION SOMEWHERE BETWEEN THE TWO.
GAIMUSHO OFFICIAL SAID "WE THINK THE FRENCH ARE
IN TOO MUCH OF A HURRY TO MEET WITH THE PRODUCING
COUNTRIES ADDING THAT WHILE AGREEMENTS ARE NEEDED
AMONG CONSUMERS, "MAYBE NOT SUCH CLEAR-CUT
ORGANIZATIONS OR CONCRETE FORMULA" AS US PROPOSES.
KIMURA CALLED US PLAN CONSTRUCTIVE, BUT AVOIDED
PUBLIC COMMITMENT TO JOIN AND EXPLAINED THAT FRENCH
AND US POSITIONS ARE NOT SO DIFFERENT, AT LEAST IN
PRINCIPLE.

GLOBE'S WERMIEL IN WASHINGTON SAYS PRESIDENT TOLD
CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS TUESDAY HE HAD DISCUSSED
FOREIGN FISHING OFF US COAST "STRONGLY AND SEVERELY"
IN JAPAN; AND THAT HE HAD PERSUADED GOJ TO LIFT
EMBARGO ON US BEEF.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

7. CHINA

NYT'S SULZBERGER, WRITING FROM PARIS, SAYS ONE
PRINCIPAL FACTOR CONTRIBUTING TO ORIGINAL US SHIFT

IN ATTITUDES TOWARDS PEKING WAS DESIRE TO APPROACH
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MOSCOW THROUGH THE BACK DOOR. NIXON AND HAK
REALIZED THAT US DIPLOMATIC POSTURE WOULD SEEM
FLABBY TO KREMLIN SO LONG AS WASHINGTON HAD NO CONTACT
WITH PRC.

AFTER FORD-BREZHNEV MEETING, BOTH SIDES STRESS THAT
BREAKTHROUGH HAS COME. SHOULD THIS PROVE TRUE, IT
WOULD MARK ENORMOUS STEP. BUT IT WILL TAKE MONTHS
BEFORE WE KNOW ANSWER.

CHINESE ARE LESS THAN ENTHUSIASTIC WITH THEIR
DESIGNATED ROLE AS US STEPPING STONE TO RUSSIA.
THEY HAVE COOLED TOWARD WASHINGTON AND ARE DIS-
APPOINTED WITH THEIR OLD FRIEND HAK. TRADE HASN'T
REACHED PROMISED LEVELS AND THERE IS IRRITATION
WITH US OVER CAMBODIA; MOREOVER, PEKING MAKES PLAIN
IT STILL ADMIRES NIXON MORE THAN FORD. CHOU, OFTEN
SEEN AS AMERICA'S BEST FRIEND, IS SICK AND OLD -
AS IS MAO, WHO ACCEPTED HIS ANALYSES AND RECEIVED
NIXON. CHIAO KUAN-HUA IS A CHOU MAN WHO LIKED BRUCE,
BUT HE WIELDS LITTLE INFLUENCE.

WHILE ONE MAY EXPECT A GOOD DEAL OF OPTIMISTIC LACQUER
TO DECORATE HAK'S LATEST PEKING PICTORIAL, PRC HAS
SIGNALLED, SINCE HE WAS LAST THERE, THAT IT TOO UNDER-
STANDS POWER POLITICS. THE CHINESE HAVE NOT ONLY
DONE EXCEEDINGLY WELL IN THIRD WORLD BUT RECENTLY
WINKED AT MOSCOW QUITE COYLY IN THEIR MESSAGE TO USSR
URGING "NORMALIZATION" OF RELATIONS AS "RESPONDING
TO THE FUNDAMENTAL INTERESTS OF THE TWO PEOPLES" AND
PLEDGING TO WORK FOR PRESERVATION OF "REVOLUTIONARY
AMITY." THIS LEFT BREZHNEV IN CONTROL OF BALL. HE
COULD HAVE PLAYED WITH PEKING IF HE WANTED, BUT HAS
PERSONALLY KNOCKED DOWN CHINA'S PLAY. NOW HE CAN
CODDLE US FANCIES AND STILL CATER TO OUR PEACE-
MONGERING INSTINCTS AND BUDGETARY PINCH, OR GET TOUGH
IN ME.

WHATEVER HAPPENS, MOSCOW HAS KEY POSITION, SIMILAR TO
THAT ONCE CLAIMED BY WASHINGTON. IT CAN SWING EITHER
WAY. RUSSIA HAS REACHED MILITARY ASCENDANCY WHICH
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ENABLES IT TO NEGOTIATE FROM STRENGTH - AS IT USED TO
COMPLAIN WE DID. CRITICAL TEST WILL BE ON ISRAEL.

8. INDOCHINA

GEN. NGUYEN KHANH IN PARIS, WRITES TO WP EDITOR, DENYING ACCUSATIONS AGAINST HIM IN NOV 11 MCCOMBS ARTICLE " A 'WHO WAS WHO' OF SAIGON'S POLITICS." MAINTAINS HE WAS NATIONALIST POLITICAL LEADER FROM 1964-65, WAS UNAWARE OF JAN 1964 MILITARY PUTSCH UNTIL DAY IT BROKE OUT, ACCEPTED RESPONSIBILITY TO LEAD SVN NOT OUT OF PERSONAL AMBITION, BUT WITH AIM OF KEEPING UNITY IN ARVN AND, MORE SO, TO LOOK FOR POLITICAL SOLUTION TO ARMED CONFLICT IN SVN. SAYS NEGOTIATIONS WITH NLF FOR RETURN TO PEACE WERE ABOUT TO BEGIN WHEN, UPON DECISION OF SAIGON GOVT (LARGELY "SUGGESTED" BY US OFFICIALS IN SAIGON), HE WAS FORCED TO LEAVE COUNTRY. CONTENDS HE WAS FIRM OPPONENT OF "AMERICANIZATION" OF VN WAR AND DENIES HE EVER PARTICIPATED IN ANY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.

9. JAPAN

SUN EDIT SAYS TANAKA IS, SUPERFICIALLY, THE FIRST FOREIGN VICTIM OF "POST-WATERGATE MORALITY" - VALUE SYSTEM UNDER WHICH THINGS WHICH ONCE WERE ALL RIGHT ARE NOT ANY LONGER. IN REALITY HE WAS BROUGHT DOWN BY METEORIC RISE IN OIL PRICES IN PAST TWO YEARS. HIS RESIGNATION PROVOKES CRISIS OF FACTIONS FOR CONTROL OF LDP, BUT IS UNLIKELY TO PROVOKE AN AGONIZED DEBATE OVER PUBLIC MORALITY OR PRODUCE NATIONAL CRISIS. THUS TANAKA AND FORD WERE RIGHT TO CARRY ON SUMMIT MEETING DESPITE CERTAINTY THAT TANAKA WOULD STEP DOWN JUST AFTER IT.

JAPAN'S PROSPERITY STUMBLER ON IMPORT OF EVER MORE COSTLY ENERGY. TANAKA GOVT FAILED TO COPE; NO GOVT HAS, AND JAPAN IS MORE VULNERABLE THAN OTHER INDUSTRIAL SOCIETIES. LIKE HEADS OF OTHER GOVTS THAT HAVE FALLEN, HE HAS PAID FOR FAILING TO SOLVE PROBLEM NO ONE NATION COULD HOPE TO SOLVE. WHEN UNCLASSIFIED

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NEW LEADERSHIP STRUGGLE IS SORTED OUT, JAPAN WILL BE IN SAME PREDICAMENT. RELATIONS BETWEEN BUSINESS AND GOVT WILL PROBABLY BE SAME, RULING PARTY WILL STILL BE LED BY FACTIONAL CHIEFS, AND TANAKA WILL PROBABLY BE ONE OF THEM.

10. INDONESIA

GLOBE'S MCCABE INTERVIEWS WYN SARGENT, WHO MARRIED TRIBAL CHIEF IN NEW GUINEA, AND IS PROMOTING "PEOPLE OF THE VALLEY," BOOK ABOUT HER ADVENTURES. SARGENT SAID GOI EXPELLED HER FROM WEST IRIAN BECAUSE SHE DISCOVERED THAT INDONESIAN POLICE, UNDER

GUISE OF "NATIONALIZATION," ARE TORTURING, BRUTALIZING AND PRACTICING GENOCIDE ON NATIVES. SHE HAS, WITH HELP OF INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS, SUBMITTED REPORT TO UN AND SAYS INDONESIA IS NOW ON "BLACKLIST" AS "HAVING COMMITTED GROSS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS". SAYS "FURTHER ACTION" IS ANTICIPATED FROM ILO AND THAT ILO DISAPPROVAL IS, IN MANY WAYS, "MORE EFFECTIVE THAN UN'S."

11. MICRONESIA

FORMER FSO DON MCHENRY, WHO DIRECTS SPECIAL PROJECT ON MICRONESIA FOR CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT, AND DOWNS, A PROJECT RESEARCHER, NOTE ADMIN REQUESTS TO INCREASE

FUNDS FOR MICRONESIA, WHICH AMOUNT TO BACK-DOOR ATTEMPT TO FORCE CONGRESS' HAND ON LARGER, SENSITIVE ISSUE OF US' FORMAL RELATIONSHIP TO MICRONESIA. FEW ARE AWARE THAT US IS CLOSE TO FIRST TERRITORIAL ACQUISITION SINCE 1900. RESULT WILL BE NEW LONG-TERM FINANCIAL AND DEFENSE COMMITMENTS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF MAJOR NEW MILITARY BASE. SUCH STEPS SHOULD INVOLVE PUBLIC DEBATE, BUT ADMIN'S STRATEGY SEEKS TO AVOID CONTROVERSY BY ASKING CONGRESS TO APPROVE THE MAJOR IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS OF NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT BEFORE CONGRESS CONSIDERS THE AGREEMENT ITSELF. , UNDER AGREEMENTS, PEOPLE OF MARIANA ISLANDS COMMONWEALTH WOULD BECOME US CITIZENS, AND TINIAN WOULD BE SITE UNCLASSIFIED

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OF BASE. REST OF MICRONESIA TO GAIN "QUALIFIED SOVEREIGNTY" ALLOWING THEM TO CONTROL INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUT DELEGATING TO US COMPLETE CONTROL OF DEFENSE AND VIRTUALLY COMPLETE CONTROL OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. FIFTEEN YEARS LATER, AFTER SIGNING MUTUAL SECURITY PACT WITH US, MICRONESIANS COULD DECLARE INDEPENDENCE.

AUTHORS HOLD THAT CONGRESS CANNOT PROVIDE TRANSITION FUNDS FOR MARIANAS WITHOUT TAKING POSITION ON MAJOR ISSUES FACING AREA. ONE IS WHETHER MARIANAS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO BREAK AWAY FROM MICRONESIA AND POSSIBLY ENCOURAGE OTHER SEPARATIST MOVEMENTS. BUT BY FAR THE MAJOR ISSUE IS THE UNEXAMINED PREMISE UNDERLYING US POLICY THAT MICRONESIA IS ESSENTIAL TO US SECURITY INTERESTS. FINALLY, CONGRESS NEEDS TO CONSIDER THE STAKES FOR MICRONESIANS, WHOSE LOCATION SEEMS TO BE THE ONLY COMMODITY ON WHICH THEY CAN RELY FOR ECON DEVELOPMENT.

12. KOREA

CDN (NOV 25) EXPRESSES VIEW THAT PRES SHOULD NOT HAVE

MADE PLEDGE TO SK THAT US TROOPS WILL REMAIN AND THAT
HE WILL PRESS CONGRESS FOR FUNDS TO MODERNIZE ARMY.
SK NOW HAS ONE OF BIGGEST ARMIES ANYWHERE, CAPABLE
OF DEFENDING AGAINST ANY PUSH NK MIGHT MOUNT.
SUPPORTING US FORCE ADDS TO DRAIN ON US B/P AT TIME
WHEN OUTFLOW FOR OIL IS REACHING CRISIS PROPORTIONS.
SK HAS DONE WELL ECONOMICALLY IN RECENT YEARS, BUT
LESS CAN BE SAID FOR ITS POLITICAL PROGRESS, AND US
IS IN UNCOMFORTABLE POSITION OF SUPPORTING AN
INCREASINGLY OPPRESSIVE REGIME. US INTERESTS WOULD
BE BETTER SERVED BY WITHDRAWING ALL OR MOST TROOPS
AND BEGINNING PROCESS OF DISENTANGLEMENT, THAN BY
PROMISING CONTINUED PROTECTION NO LONGER NEEDED OR
JUSTIFIED. INGERSOLL

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